Sunday, January 5, 2003

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

'Go pills' pushed into spotlight

BY GREG MILLER

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The Air Force calls them "go pills," and that is what they do: keep pilots going in the air long after their tired minds and bodies would have preferred to fall asleep.

The stimulants have been used by airmen since World War II, and were doled out by the thousands in the Persian Gulf War and Afghanistan. But the practice is coming under new scrutiny in the investigation of two F-16 pilots who were taking Air Forceprovided amphetamines when they mistook a midnight training exercise for hostile fire and bombed a gathering of Canadian soldiers.

Four Canadians were killed in the April incident, and eight others were wounded. The Air Force has taken the unprecedented step of pursuing criminal charges against the pilots, Majs. Harry Schmidt and William Umbach, each of whom faces up to 64 years in prison.

But if the case proceeds beyond a preliminary hearing scheduled for Jan. 13, the Air Force could find many of its own practices also on trial, including its distribution of drugs that are banned in commercial aviation.

A lawyer for one of the pilots said last week that he intends to argue that the airmen's judgment was impaired by their repeated use of amphetamines prescribed by Air Force doctors in Afghanistan—drugs, he said, that would cost the pilots their jobs if they were caught using them behind the wheel of a car instead of in the cockpit of an F-16.

"Were these pilots' perceptions affected by their use of dextroamphetamine? I don't know," said Charles Gittins, a Virginia attorney and former Naval flight officer representing the pilot who dropped the bomb on the Canadians. "But we're going to present it and let the [court] decide."

A Pentagon investigation of the bombing ruled out the use of stimulants as a factor, concluding instead that the pilots were guilty of "reckless" behavior and had violated rules of engagement.

Experts say Gittins could have a hard time connecting the pilots' fateful mistake to the influence of a relatively small dose of dextroamphetamine. And even he acknowledges that the drugs aren't at the heart of his case.

Instead, he said, the accidental bombing was the result of a series of breakdowns, including the failure of the Air Force to notify the two pilots, both members of the Illinois National Guard, that there were training exercises in the area.

But the high level of attention surrounding the unusual case already is calling attention to the Air Force's little-known drug policies. Some say that if the Air Force was forced to change those policies, it also would change the nature of its pilots' missions.

Many in the service see the use of stimulants as a prerequisite for the night-long fighter patrols and transoceanic bombing runs that are mainstays of the modern aerial campaign.

See STIMULANTS on Page 2

Lending a helping hand



AARON FAVILA/AF

909th Forward Surgical Team commander U.S. Col. John Wassner, right, and Lt. Col. Chuck Kox, center, examine the burned hand of Afghan boy Ali Muhammad inside Solerno Fort Operating Base hospital in Khost, Afghanistan on Friday. U.S. military doctors treat Afghan patients at the base as part of their outreach program to nearby villages.

Al-Qaida ties seen in missionaries' deaths

BY AHMED AL-HAJ

The Associated Press

SAN'A, Yemen — Audiotapes of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden were found at the house of a Yemeni who allegedly shot dead three American missionaries in southern Yemen, a Yemeni security official said Sunday.

Abed Abdul Razak Kamel and his alleged collaborator, Ali al-Jarallah, are believed to be members of a terrorist cell closely connected with al-Qaida, the security official said on condition of anonymity. Both men are in police custody.

Yemeni parliament speaker Abdullah al-Ahmar, meanwhile, said in remarks published Sunday that he believes last week's missionary shootings was a response to

the November killing of al-Qaida's top operative in Yemen by an unmanned CIA aircraft.

On Dec. 30, Kamel allegedly walked into the Jibla Hospital in southern Yemen and shot dead missionaries Kathleen A. Gariety, Martha C. Myers and William E. Koehn. A fourth American, Donald W. Caswell, was shot but survived.

Kamel's alleged associate, al-Jarallah, was arrested prior to the hospital attack for the Dec. 28 assassination of a veteran Yemeni leftist politician.

The Yemeni security official refused to say why authorities believed the two men were members of an al-Qaida-affiliated cell.

See ATTACK on Page 2

Attack

Continued from Page 1

However, he pointed to the bin Laden audiotapes found at Kamel's house in the capital of San'a and the "planning of the attack in Jibla" as evidence of a link.

It wasn't clear how large of a cell authorities suspected or whether any other alleged members were in custody.

Yemeni officials earlier said they believed the cell had been plotting attacks against at least eight targets, including foreigners and Yemeni politicians.

On Friday, both suspects were moved to the main intelligence headquarters in San'a for further questioning.

In another development, Saudi Arabia's Arabic-language daily Okaz quoted al-Ahmar, the Yemeni parliament speaker, as saying he believes the missionaries were slain in response to the "U.S. killing of al-Harethi and his companions in Marib."

Al-Ahmar, head of the Muslim fundamentalist Reform Party, was referring to a top bin Laden lieutenant in Yemen, Qaed Salim Sinan al-Harethi, who was killed with five other al-Qaida suspects by a missile fired from a CIA-operated Predator drone.

Yemen has been a fertile recruiting ground for bin Laden, whose al-Qaida network is blamed for the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in New York and Washington.

The terror group also has been linked to the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole off Yemen, an attack that left 17 U.S. sailors dead, and is suspected in an attack on a French tanker in October that killed one person.

While Yemen's government has cooperated with the United States in its global war on terror, anti-American sentiment is high in this lawless country on the Arabian Peninsula because of U.S. policies regarding Israel and the standoff with Iraq.

Stimulants: Use of pills is voluntary, officials say

Continued from Page 1

"They're used because pilots are sometimes required to fly missions that exceed 10 to 12 hours," said Col. Alvina Mitchell, an Air Force spokeswoman. "Or they're [used for] missions that are scheduled during time when pilots would ordinarily be sleeping."

Mitchell stressed that use of the pills is voluntary, safe and monitored closely by Air Force surgeons, who prescribe them only after testing pilots' reactions to them on the ground.

The Air Force has never attributed a crash or other accident to the use of stimulants, she said. By contrast, she said, "fatigue has been cited as a contributing cause in nearly 100 mishaps."

The military has a long and uneasy history of experimenting with stimulants as a means of enhancing the performance or endurance of its fighters. Histories of World War II indicate widespread use by German and American soldiers

But pilots' use of amphetamines expanded dramatically during the 1991 Persian Gulf War, when pilots struggled to adapt to that conflict's largely nocturnal schedule.

Fliers were given "go pills" to keep them awake for nighttime missions, and "no-go pills," or sedatives, to help them sleep through the din and desert sun on base during the day.

Surveys show that roughly half of American fighter pilots took amphetamines during the Desert Storm campaign. Some commanders were so alarmed by many pilots' growing addiction to the pills that they ordered their subordinates not to use them.

The drug distributed by the Air Force is commonly known by its brand name, Dexedrine. It is primarily used to treat hyperactivity in children and narcolepsy, a disorder in which patients fall asleep suddenly. The drug is produced by United Kingdom-based GlaxoSmithKline.

The company's literature warns that the drug has a "high potential for abuse" and "may impair the ability of the patient to engage in potentially hazardous activities such as operating machinery or vehicles."

But experts on the use of amphetamines say the drugs are effective and generally safe when administered carefully. One likened the small doses distributed by the Air Force to cups of coffee.

The pilots each had been in Afghanistan for more than a month before the strike, according to an investigation of the incident by U.S. Central Command.

Both "had complained about the 24-hour nature of the operations," Centcom's report said. "Both ... had been prescribed Go and No-Go pills for use in combating fatigue and in adjusting to the new time zones in the deployed region."

Each had taken a dose during the flight, in which Schmidt saw what he described as "fireworks" as they passed south of Kandahar.

The flashes were coming from Canadian troops engaged in a live-fire exercise at a former al-Qaida training compound. But Schmidt and his superior, Umbach, believed they were under attack.

Schmidt, who taught at the Navy's elite "Top Gun" fighter pilot school, asked permission to strafe the ground with his cannon. He was told to hold fire and stand by, but instead he moved lower. After further flashes, he said he was "rolling in in self-defense" and, with a call of "bombs away," released a 500-pound, laserguided munition.

A moment later, a ground commander warned that "Kandahar has friendlies" and to get the F-16s "out of there." By then, it was too late.

Schmidt and Umbach both have been charged with four counts of manslaughter and eight counts of assault — the first time such charges have been leveled against pilots for actions in wartime. The upcoming hearing at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana is to determine whether they will face court-martial.

USNS Comfort prepares for war

BALTIMORE — About 300 sailors were preparing Sunday to board the USNS Comfort, a Navy hospital ship scheduled to leave port Monday to aid in a possible war with Iraq.

The crew of 225 Navy personnel and 61 civilian medical staffers were to be bused Sunday from the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda to Baltimore, where the ship was docked, Lt. Cmdr. Ed Austin said.

The Comfort was scheduled to leave Mon-

day morning for the Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia.

The 1,000-bed ship, painted white with red crosses, is part of a broad mobilization of air, land and sea forces for a possible invasion of Iraq. It has two operating rooms and is equipped to handle troops injured in biological and chemical attacks.

The Comfort last deployed for war during Desert Storm in 1990 and 1991. It also sailed to New York to assist emergency crews after the collapse of the World Trade Center.

Country star Penny Gilley performs at Kuwait camps

BY MARNI MCENTEE

Stars and Stripes

KUWAIT CITY, Kuwait — A country music singer whose song about Operation Desert Storm made her famous among U.S. troops is back in the Persian Gulf region for a series of concerts.

Penny Gilley has performed several shows at U.S. Army and Marine camps in Kuwait, as well as at Seeb Air Force Base in Oman. Next, she heads to Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia for a show on Monday. She also did some shows in Afghanistan.

"The military audience is the most appreciative in the world," Gilley said. "They know we're here by choice."

Gilley is a veteran when it comes to performing for American GIs. The singer has done 11 shows in South Korea, as well as several shows in the Balkan countries and at stateside military bases over the past 12 years.

Gilley, 45, recently was named the ambassador for Operation Enduring Response, a national campaign that encour-

ages schoolchildren to write to troops fighting in the war against terrorism. She came to Southwest Asia with a mailbag full of letters.

Many troops know her best for her song "The Line Drawn in the Sand," which she mailed in 1991 to Desert Storm troops. She later was invited to perform at the Marine base Camp Pendleton near San Diego, Calif., during a homecoming celebration for troops returning from that war.

Gilley, a Louisiana native who now calls Grapevine, Texas, home, said this trip is the first time she has been able to perform her signature song for troops stationed in the desert.

"I always request to perform for troops who don't get a lot of entertainment," Gilley said. "Sometimes, we're all they've got."

Gilley plans another show in South Korea in April, and hopes to make her first trip to an aircraft carrier for some shows this year.

E-mail Marni McEntee at: mcenteem@mail.estripes.osd.mil

British troops deploying?

LONDON — Defense officials on Saturday refused to confirm newspaper reports that Britain soon will send thousands of troops to the Persian Gulf to increase the pressure on Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The Ministry of Defence would not confirm reports in The Daily Telegraph and Chicago Tribune that Britain would order up to 20,000 troops to the Gulf this week.

A ministry spokeswoman said the government was making "contingency plans" for war, but no decision had been taken on military action.

However, she said the government "can't rule out the possibility of a further statement next week."

British officials and politicians return to work this week after the Christmas and New Year's break, and likely will increase both military and diplomatic pressure on Iraq.

On Monday and Tuesday, British ambassadors from around the world will meet in London to discuss Iraq and other issues.

The United States — backed by Britain — has threatened to use force to disarm Iraq if it does not voluntarily give up its banned nuclear, chemical and bio-

logical weapons as required by U.N.Security Council resolutions. Iraq maintains it has no banned weapons.

Britain announced in November that six Royal Navy vessels, including the aircraft carrier HMS Ark Royal and a nuclear submarine, will head for the Gulf this month en route to a long-planned exercise in Southeast Asia.

The Daily Telegraph reported Saturday that the government would announce this week it was sending 20,000 troops to the region and calling up 7,000 military reservists. The Times also said the government would call up thousands of reservists. Neither paper cited sources for the information.

Protesters break into base

LONDON — Police arrested 15 protesters who broke into a U.S. Air Force base in southern England on Sunday.

The Ministry of Defence said the protesters were detained shortly after climbing through a hole they cut the fence of RAF Mildenhall in Suffolk.

The base houses giant refueling tankers for the U.S. fighter-bomber planes based at nearby RAF Lakenheath.

Both bases are regular targets for demonstrations by peace protesters.

From wire reports

Pushing for a new law

TOKYO — A senior ruling party official pledged Saturday to push for a new law allowing Japanese troops a significant role in the postwar reconstruction of Iraq if there is a military conflict.

Secretary General Taku Yamasaki of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party said he wanted to see the law passed in the upcoming session of Parliament, which reconvenes Jan. 20.

"I think Japan's role in reconstruction and dealing with refugees is extremely big," Yamasaki said at a meeting of supporters in the southern city of Fukuoka.

Japan, like many other countries, is expecting a U.S. attack on Iraq.

So far Tokyo — one of Washington's closest allies and a firm backer of its war on terrorism — has been treading carefully around how far it would go to back an offensive against Saddam Hussein.

Illegal arms sales reported

BANJA LUKA, Bosnia and Herzegovina — Bosnian Serb military officials knew about a local firm's alleged illegal weapons sales to Iraq — but civilian officials were not informed, the president said Saturday.

Dragan Cavic revealed few details from a 1,600 page report on the Orao aviation firm, which is accused of violating a U.N. arms embargo against Iraq. However, he suggested that the trade, which lasted from 1997 until September 2002, involved the military and a Yugoslav company — and was not sanctioned by Bosnian Serb leaders.

"This affair was a conspiracy among Bosnian Serb military officers at different levels and Yugoimport," he said. "Civilian authorities were not involved in it"

German leader stays mum

BERLIN — Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder kept up his refusal to say whether his opposition to war in Iraq would see Germany cast a dissenting vote in the U.N. Security Council, insisting in remarks released Saturday that Berlin would do all it could to avoid a military conflict.

"Today, nobody knows whether it will even come to a vote or what will be voted on," Schroeder said in an interview with the Der Spiegel news weekly, amplifying comments made earlier this week.

Last summer, Schroeder's strident opposition to military action against Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein helped him narrowly win re-election but angered Washington.

Schroeder has argued that a war could destabilize the Middle East and complicate efforts to fight terrorism.

Iraqi media: Citizen militia conducting combat drills

BY SAMEER N. YACOUB

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A civilian militia that could be a bulwark in defending Baghdad against a possible U.S. invasion has carried out a war game designed to block an enemy force attacking from several directions, a state newspaper reported Sunday.

Meanwhile, in the northern city of Mosul a team of U.N. arms inspectors operating from a just-opened base searched hospitals.

Other teams visited four sites in and around Baghdad and in the southern city of Basra.

The official daily Al-Iraq said the people's militia of President Saddam Hussein's Baath Party conducted the combat drill Saturday in Babil province, directly south of Baghdad. Militiamen practiced deceiving an attacking enemy and fighting in urban and rural areas, the paper said.

The brief article did not say how many troops took part, nor did it include photographs of the exercise. It quoted a senior Baath party member, Fadhil Mahmoud al-Mishiykhi, as praising the fighters' efficiency and morale in battling a campaign against Iraq launched by the United States and "its Zionist ally" — Israel.

Late last month, the staterun Iraqi press reported a similar exercise in Babil province, again without giving details. Iraqi officials frequently have claimed any invading force would be confronted not only by troops but by armed citizens defending every city and village in the country.

An editorial in the Baath

Party daily Al-Thawra on Sunday accused the United States of trying to solve its "increasing economic problems" by dominating world oil supplies. It called on other nations to join oil-rich Iraq in confronting the Americans.

"The aggressor should be told, "Stop your aggression or else you will face a bold resistance and will be defeated," the paper said.

U.S. officials maintain President Bush has not made a decision to go to war in Iraq and say he has expressed hope that the crisis can be settled peacefully through the U.N. arms experts whose job is to determine whether Iraq still has chemical and biological weapons and a nuclear development program. Iraq maintains it does not.

Weapons inspectors have said Iraq's accounting of its weapons program fails to provide enough evidence to support Baghdad's claims to have destroyed missiles, warheads and chemical agents such as VX nerve gas.

The Bush Administration cited nine areas in which it said Iraq's declaration fails to provide a complete picture of actual weapons holdings, including unaccounted-for thousands of pounds of growth media for producing anthrax and chemical precursors for manufacturing mustard gas.

On Saturday, U.S. Central Command said American and British warplanes dropped 240,000 propaganda leaflets over southern Iraq for the second time in three days, providing radio frequencies that broadcast messages urging Iraqis to oppose Saddam. The cities targeted were Al Amarah and As Samawah, both about 170 miles southeast of Baghdad.

Iraqi media: Citizen | 14 Air Force members in Texas get vaccines

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Eight officers and six enlistees at Lackland Air Force Base have become the first people in San Antonio to be inoculated against smallpox since the Pentagon ended the practice more than a decade ago.

The vaccine was given to medical personnel at Lackland's Wilford Hall Medical Center. The 14 airmen, including one general, were selected after being screened for medical conditions that would disqualify them from getting vaccinated.

The Air Force didn't identify those taking the vaccine, citing Pentagon policy.

The vaccine will now be administered to others or, in the case of an outbreak, for those infected with smallpox, the San Antonio Express-News reported in Friday's editions.

"If there was a case of smallpox identified, it would be assumed that this was a biowarfare or terrorist event," said Col. (Dr.) Larry Hagan, educational director for Wilford Hall's Department of Allergy and Immunology.

An undisclosed number of military installations have started vaccinating volunteers as a first step toward preparing for a terror attack involving smallpox.

Hagan said as many as 200 specialists and other personnel at Wilford Hall will be vaccinated when the Pentagon issues the order.

Hagan said he expects that order to come soon.

A little more than 10 million public health workers in communities around the country also will be given the vaccinations under a plan recently unveiled by President Bush, who himself was vaccinated just before Christmas.

The president has shown no adverse effects, a White House spokesman said.

Though the federal government is offering the vaccine to volunteer smallpox response teams, it's not recommending that residents get inoculations.

Provisions, however, are being made for those who want the vaccine. Civilian vaccinations won't begin until after Jan. 24, the date when the Homeland Security Act of 2002 takes effect.

Bill Pierce, a spokesman with the Department of Health and Human Services, said he believes that, so far, only the military has been given the vaccine.

Pentagon spokesman Jim Turner said more than 500,000 troops would receive the smallpox vaccine.

Navy merges job ratings

The Navy merged the rating of Aviation Storekeeper (AK) into the overall Storekeeper (SK) rating effective Jan. 1 for E-1 through E-6 personnel.

Converted sailors will be allowed to retain their AK rating badges until their next advancement, or until Jan. 1, 2005, whichever comes first, according to a naval administration message.

The conversion change will show up automatically in sailors' personnel records.

The first merged promotion exam for E-7 active duty sailors takes place this month, followed by the first merged E-7 exam for Reserve sailors in February.

The first merged exams for active duty E-4 through E-6 sailors will be in March 2003, followed by the first for E-4 through E-6 Reserve sailors in August.

More information is available at www.persnet.navy.mil/ PERS2/n132d15/, including the schedule under the AK.SK button to the left on the Web page.

From staff reports

Israel Radio: Anti-missile test successful

The Associated Press

PALMACHIM, Israel — Israel on Sunday carried out its most ambitious test of the Arrow anti-missile system, firing several interceptors at once at simulated incoming rockets in what was described as a dress rehearsal for a possible attack by Iraq.

In nine previous launches, only one Arrow was fired each time.

Israel Radio reported that the test was successful, but Army Radio said the test results were still being evaluated.

The test, reportedly witnessed by American experts, was seen as a signal to Saddam Hussein that any missile strike could be thwarted by the hightech system.

Israel believes Iraq may try to attack the Jewish state with Scud missiles in response to an anticipated U.S. military campaign against Saddam as Iraq did in the 1991 Persian Gulf War, when it fired 39 Scud missiles with conventional explosive warheads at Israel, causing damage but few casualties.

Israelis have been displaying growing concern over the possibility of an Iraqi attack, and a successful Arrow test might help allay fears. A failure, on the other hand, could

increase them.

Before the test, air force commander Maj. Gen. Dan Halutz told Army Radio that the Iraqi capability of hitting Israel is "limited, very limited," but he added, "Of course, we have to be prepared for surprises, things we didn't think about.

The Arrow is the most advanced missile defense system of its kind in the world, and such a test has never been performed before, said Yitzhak Ben-Israel, who used to oversee the Arrow project at Israel's Defense Ministry. "We want to test the ability of the system to fire many missiles at once against a barrage of Scud missiles," Ben-Israel told Israel Army Radio on Sunday. However, no actual target missiles were fired Sunday.

Trial to begin for 11 policemen

Miami officers charged with cover-ups, planting guns

BY CATHERINE WILSON

The Associated Press

MIAMI — The late 1990s in Miami was marked by high violent crime rates, with roving gangs that stalked tourists, but prosecutors say the violence also included acts committed by the police.

Based on information from two retired officers who pleaded guilty to conspiracy in September 2001, 11 other officers were indicted on federal corruption charges alleging cover-ups in four police shootings in which three men were killed.

The 11 are scheduled to go on trial Monday on charges of planting guns, manipulating evidence or covering up crimes by others in a series of questionable shootings. The two who pleaded guilty are slated as the prosecution's star witnesses.

The case was the city's worst police scandal since the 1980s, when the so-called "Miami River Cops" stole cocaine from drug traffickers

and sold the drug themselves. More than 100 officers were arrested, fired or disciplined in that case

"The history of Miami has been characterized by ugly police-community relations. said Howard Simon, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida. "There is a loss of confidence, if not outright hostility, by the minority community because of the great number of shootings of typically unarmed black young men.'

Miami is not alone.

In Los Angeles, about 100 criminal cases were overturned after investigators heard allegations of police abuses in the police department's Rampart Division that included evidence tampering, unjustified shootings and

The numbers of police shootings in New York City have declined markedly but have been highlighted by cases such as the 1999 death of immigrant Amadou Diallo, shot 19 times by four white officers when he reached for his wallet.

The four Miami shootings involved the deaths of three black men and the wounding of a fourth, plus one in which a man escaped injury.

In all of the cases, prosecutors say, guns were planted to make it look as if the three robbery suspects, a drug suspect and a homeless man were armed.

An attorney for two of the indicted officers said the shootings were justified.

"The justifiable use of force and deadly force laws have been in existence for vears," said attorney Richard Sharpstein. "All of these shootings were well within those parameters."

The federal trial is expected to last three to five months. No state charges were filed.

In the past, police killings in Miami have intensified already strained race relations in a city beset by political corruption, economic woes and other problems.

Broadcasters: Ex-editor pitched cloning story exclusives

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The former ABC News science editor who said he would verify claims that the first human clone had been born tried months ago to sell exclusive coverage of the cloning to the major broadcast networks, according to a report published Sunday.

CNN, ABC, NBC, CBS, **HBO** and Fox Entertainment all were approached by freelance television journalist Michael Guillen, The New York Times reported.

At Fox, Guillen proposed a reality-based show on the cloning process, starting before the births, the Times said. He even offered to produce it and be the on-air host, but Fox rejected the propos-

"We thought it was more

appropriate for our news department and we referred it to them," Joe Earley, a Fox spokesman, told the Times.

Another network executive, whom the Times did not identify, said Guillen proposed an exclusive documentary on the cloning at a price of more than \$100,000. The executive said the offer would have given the network too little editorial con-

Guillen stepped into the cloning spotlight a week ago when he announced he would organize experts to independently test the claims of Clonaid, a company linked to a religious sect that believes life on Earth was created by extraterrestrials. The group claimed it had created the first cloned human, a girl it said was born to an American

mother Dec. 26, but no DNA tests have yet verified the claim.

Brigitte Boisselier, Clonaid's chief executive. said Saturday that the DNA testing on the child had been delayed because the child's parents were concerned about legal ramifications if they came forward. She said they promised to tell her Monday whether they would allow the testing.

Boisselier also announced Saturday that a second child cloned by the group had been born to Dutch parents, although no tests have verified that.

Guillen holds a doctorate from Cornell University and taught physics at Harvard before going into television journalism. He worked at ABC News from 1988 until last

Lott to head Rules committee

WASHINGTON — The Senate's No. 3 Republican, Rick Santorum, confirmed on Sunday that he was stepping aside as a committee chairman in favor of ousted GOP leader Trent Lott.

"One of the things I believe very strongly is that we need to put our best team on the field," said Santorum, R-Pa.

Santorum, recently elected to a second term as GOP conference chairman, pointed to his other Senate duties as well as Lott's institutional experience in explaining his decision to let Lott take over as chairman of the Rules and Administration Committee.

Close encounter with jumbo jet

HONOLULU — Residents of a highrise near Waikiki have told federal authorities a China Airlines jumbo jet flew dangerously close to the side of the 41-story building.

Ana Marie Vaisanen said she could see passengers inside the Boeing 747 as it swept past her 12th-floor condominium at Century Center around 7 a.m. Saturday.

Some residents said the plane came within 30 feet of the building and that one of its wings passed over the fourth-floor recreation deck.

Tweet Coleman, the Federal Aviation Administration's Pacific representative, would only confirm that witnesses reported a China Airlines 747 was involved.

"We're doing an investigation on it, so I really don't have any specifics at this time," Coleman said Saturday night.

Mouthwash thefts rise

BOSTON — It's a stiff brew with a sharp aftertaste, but it's among the cheapest on the market, legal to drink in public, freshens breath and, according to manufacturers, helps fight gingivitis.

In recent months, downtown convenience stores have seen an increase in thefts that has accompanied a rising homeless population. The item most frequently stolen: mouthwash.

At \$3.99 for a 50-ounce bottle, Listerine and similar brands have as much as 27 percent alcohol content, compared with about 12 percent for wine. Drinking it is legal, and some health officials and homeless advocates saying drinking it could stave off potentially lethal seizures.

While there's no hard data, police says downtown convenience stores have seen an increase in mouthwash thefts believed to be linked to the increase in the homeless population.

The owner of three area 7-Eleven stores has cut the number of brands he sells, and keeps the bottles he does sell behind the counter.

Westerfield gets death

BY SETH HETTENA

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The man who kidnapped and murdered 7-year-old neighbor Danielle van Dam was sentenced to death Friday after the little girl's sobbing mother branded him a "monster" deserving of no mercy.

David Westerfield showed no emotion as a judge imposed the sentence a jury had recommended in September.

The 50-year-old engineer declined to make a statement, turning aside the mother's plea for an apology.

"What were you thinking as you killed her? Did she not touch your heart one bit? If not, you are heartless. You are an empty shell," Danielle's mother, Brenda, said as she fought back tears.

"It disgusts me that your sick fantasies and pitiful needs made you think that you needed Danielle more than her family."

Danielle was snatched from her bedroom last February in the first in a string of child abductions that gripped the nation last year.

Prosecutors said there was no justification for anything less than the death penalty for such an "evil, selfish, cold-hearted child killer." Brenda van Dam wept as Superior Court Judge William Mudd recounted how her daughter's body was found naked and missing teeth. The judge called the crime "extremely cruel and vicious."

"Our precious Danielle was taken by a monster, thinking only of self-gratification and not thinking about the sweet little child he was harming and about how his crime would affect her family, the community and the world," Brenda van Dam said.

She added: "You do not deserve any leniency, any mercy because you refused to give it to Danielle."

Damon van Dam, Danielle's father, said he and his family were left with a "hole in all of our hearts that will never heal."

"I'll never get to see her be a doctor or a teacher. I'll miss seeing her going to the prom. I'll miss her graduation. I'll miss seeing her go off to college and seeing what she will become," he said.

Westerfield's attorneys pleaded for a sentence of life without parole, with attorney Steven Feldman asking the judge not to give in to the "lynch-mob mentality in this community."

Man charged with killing family arrested

The Associated Press

BAKER CITY, Ore. — A fugitive charged with killing his wife and three children and dumping their bodies in a forest was captured Saturday after a two-week manhunt, prosecutors said.

Edward Morris, 37, was arrested without incident in a drug store parking lot, said Baker County District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff.

The bodies of Renee Morris, 31; Bryant, 10; Alexis, 8; and Jonathan, 4, were found by hunters Dec. 21 on an isolated road in the Tillamook State Forest. Police believe they were killed the day before.

The area, in mountainous forest about 70 miles west of Portland, is covered with second-growth timber and underbrush; it is popular with dirt bikers, all-terrain vehicle riders and hunters.

Authorities have not specified how the victims were killed, but autopsies completed late last month showed the four victims died of "homicidal violence," according to court documents. No motive has been determined.

Prosecutors charged Morris with murder while he was still a fugitive. He had lived with his family in Portland. Tom Stubblefield, spokesman for the family of Renee Morris, said they are "really elated, relieved" about the arrest. "Overall I think the family will sleep well tonight," he said.

Two witnesses spotted Morris' gray 1993 Dodge Caravan near the town of Durkee, called police and followed him about 20 miles to Baker City. A \$50,000 reward had been offered for information leading to the arrest; it was not immediately clear whether that money would go to the witnesses.

"We saw it at the same time, and we said, 'Oh, is that it, is that the number?' said Linda Martin, who was traveling with her brother, Thom, when they recognized the van.

Shirtcliff said Morris was not in jail but was "in a secure location with the major-crime team." He said Tillamook County authorities were flying to Baker City and would take over the case.

Relatives and neighbors described the Morrises as extremely religious and dedicated to their children.

Edward Morris had trouble holding a job and started several roofing and land-scaping businesses over the past years.

22 dead in Tel Aviv blasts

2 suicide bombers set off explosions minutes apart

BY JASON KEYSER

The Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — Two Palestinian suicide bombers set off powerful blasts seconds apart Sunday in a central Tel Aviv area crowded with foreign workers, killing 22 bystanders and wounding more than 100 in the bloodiest attack in six months.

The twin blasts, claimed by the militant Islamic Jihad group, came just three weeks before Israel's Jan. 28 general election.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon convened an emergency meeting of key Cabinet ministers Sunday evening. Twin terror attacks of similar proportions in June — Jerusalem bus bombings that left 26 dead — triggered Israel's reoccupation of most West Bank towns.

However, with Israeli troops still in control of Palestinian population centers six months later, Israel's range of additional responses is limited, particularly at a time when the United States is considering a possible strike against Iraq and wants to avoid friction with the Arab world over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

On Sunday, two bombers set off explo-

sives strapped to their bodies seconds apart at about 6:30 p.m. in a pedestrian area filled with working class shops and restaurants near Tel Aviv's defunct central bus station.

One of the bombers blew himself up near a fast food restaurant called McChina. An explosion ripped through an outdoor restaurant, overturning wooden picnic tables and showering glass on the sidewalk.

Many of the victims were foreign workers, thousands of whom live in the area. A witness who only gave his first name, Tomer, told TV's Channel Two that he ran to help the wounded. "I saw a man without a leg. I saw horrible things, people without legs, without arms. I saw fingers," he said.

Yitzhak Teva, a barber, who was slightly injured, said he was busy cutting hair when the blast went off. "Half the wall fell on me and I was covered in broken glass," Teva said. "I shut the shop and then there was the next explosion."

The evacuation of the wounded was hampered by traffic jams in the narrow alleys of the old bus station area. By-standers were helping to remove the wounded with improvised means, using doors torn from their hinges as make-shift stretchers.

Pilot lands after threatening bank in Frankfurt

The Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany — A man who stole a small plane and threatened to crash it into the European Central Bank in Frankfurt landed safely at the city's airport, authorities said.

Military jets had scrambled after the small single-engined plane began circling over the center of the city, its red and white lights blinking on and off in the darkness several hundred meters above the skyscrapers in Germany's financial capital.

Earlier, in a call from his plane to news channel n-tv, the man had said he didn't want to harm anyone, but intended to commit suicide once his fuel ran out in about two hours.

The main railway station and several skyscrapers in the country's financial capital were evacuated as a precaution, and streets were cleared in the downtown area of the city.

Police sent up a helicopter to try to force the plane away from the city, while two military jets were seen roaring back and forth across the evening sky.

N-tv said the man had said he wanted to draw attention to the death of an astronaut killed aboard the doomed U.S. space shuttle Challenger in 1986.

Rebels OK cease-fire

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — Ivory Coast's main rebel movement agreed Saturday to respect an oft-violated cease-fire and to resume peace talks with the government later this month in Paris.

Rebel leader Guillaume Soro made the pledges after a two-hour meeting with French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin, whose visit to Ivory Coast aims to end fighting that has divided the former French colony, caused hundreds of deaths and threatened already fragile stability across West Africa.

On Friday, de Villepin also drew a promise from President Laurent Gbagbo to halt hostilities.

The consent by both sides clears the way for a new round of peace talks to be held Jan. 15 in the French capital.

From The Associated Press

Faces 'n' places

Not fur everyone

An animal rights group kicked off its first antifur campaign in eastern **Europe** with roadside billboards featuring **Goran Visnjic** and his dog, **Bugsy**.

The billboards show a picture of Visnjic, star of NBC's "ER," cradling Bugsy and the slogan: "If you wouldn't wear your dog, please don't wear any fur."

Workers began posting the billboards in **Zagreb**, **Croatia**, early Friday.

Visnjic, who grew up in **Sibenik**, said in a statement released by PETA that he decided to support the campaign after he and his wife read a magazine article about fur.

"We were disgusted," the 30-year-old actor said. "What's going on? Civilization is advancing, but some people are going backward. Today we can use many different materials to warm ourselves without killing other beings."

Ross' DUI video held

A judge has temporarily prevented police from releasing video shot during singer **Diana Ross**' drunken-driving arrest in **Tucson**, **Ariz.**, last week.

Ross' attorney, **Greg Davis**, argued the video isn't public re-cord because it wasn't made by the police officer who made the traffic stop. Davis said the officer who shot it did so only after learning the driver was Ross.

Davis also said releasing the video would irreparably damage Ross' right to a fair trial. **Bev Ginn**, representing the city, told the judge the tapes were "made under the ordinary course of business."

Ross, 58, received misdemeanor citations early Monday for driving under the influence and extreme DUI after police received a report of someone driving the wrong way down an east Tucson street.

A breath test showed Ross with a blood-alcohol level of 0.20 percent, more than twice Arizona's legal limit of 0.08, police said.

Show must go on

The Arts Consortium of Cincinnati plans to go ahead with a Jan. 20 breakfast honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. despite a request by King's son to cancel the event.

Martin Luther King III asked the arts group in November to cancel the event because it will take place in a downtown site at a time when black activists are sponsoring an economic boycott of the city.

The breakfast is part of an annual Jan. 20 observance that includes a march through downtown and a program and speeches at Music Hall.

Jets 41, Colts 0

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Chad Pennington threw for three touchdowns and LaMont Jordan ran for two as the New York Jets showed they belong in the NFL playoffs with a 41-0 rout of the Baltimore Colts on Sat-

New York (10-7) began the season 1-4, but won seven of its past nine to storm to the AFC East title on the final day of the season.

The surge continued against the wild-card Colts (10-7), who never were in the game as the Jets recorded their biggest victory margin in the playoffs.

The Jets will be at either Oakland or Tennessee next weekend. It was their first postseason victory since 1998, when they made it to the AFC champion-ship game, and the score matched the last playoff game at Giants Stadium, when the Giants beat Minnesota for the 2000 NFC title.

It also was the first NFL playoff game featuring two black head coaches. The Colts' Tony Dungy and the Jets' Herman Edwards, longtime friends, are the only black head coaches in the league.

black head coaches in the league.
Edwards spent five seasons as Dungy's top assistant in Tampa before becoming the Jets' coach in

The student came out on top of the mentor because his offense was unstoppable, his defense stingy and his special teams dominant from the outset. On the Jets' fifth offensive play, Pennington's screen pass floated into Richie Anderson's hands and

NFL

he rambled down the left side for a 56-yard score. The touchdown was the longest of his 10-year career, the longest this season for the Jets and the longest scoring play from scrimnage in their playoff history.

The Peyton Manning-to-Marvin Harrison connection got the Colts moving — for just about the only time — immediately after the TD with three completions for 38 yards, with two third-down conversions. But Mike Vanderjagt was short and wide with a 41-yard field goal into the wind.

John Hall made one from the same spot early in the second quarter for a 10-0 lead.

Troy Walters then fumbled the kickoff and Ray Mickens pounced on it at the Indianapolis 39. Five runs and a pass play later, Jordan swept left from the 1 for a 17-point lead.

It became 24-0 with 37 seconds remaining in the first half when Pennington rolled out and found Santana Moss alone in the right corner of the end zone. Moss grabbed the high throw and barely got both feet in-bounds.

Falcons 27, Packers 7

GREEN BAY, Wis. - It looked so perfect for Green

Bay. Snow falling. Packers in green and gold. Lambeau Field in January.

Only it wasn't Brett Favre making all the plays.

Only it wasn't Brett Favre making all the plays. It was Michael Vick. The 22-year-old improvisational genius led the Atlanta Falcons to a 27-7 upset of the Packers in a wild-card playoff before a record crowd of 65,358 stunned souls.

The Packers (12-5) were the only team to go unbeaten at home during the regular season. And they had never lost a home playoff game since the NFL instituted a postseason in 1933 in going 13-0 — 11 of the victories coming at Lambeau and two more in Milwaukee. The closest they had come was on New Year's Eve 1967, when Bart Starr knifed into the end zone with 13 seconds left to give Green Bay a 21-17 victory over Dallas in the coldest game in NFL history. Falcons coach Dan Reeves threw a 50-yard touchdown pass on a halfback option that gave the Cowboys a 17-14 fourth-quarter lead in that game. Favre had built a reputation as the game's greatest cold-weather quarterback, winning all 35 of his starts at home.

at nome.

But by the time snow began falling at halftime, the Falcons had an astonishing 24-0 lead.
Favre finished 20-for-42 for 247 yards.
Vick was 13-for-25 for 117 and rushed 10 times for 64 yards, numerous times turning sure sacks into big

The Falcons (10-6-1), who had backed into the play-offs after losing three of four in December, will travel to Philadelphia for a divisional playoff next weekend.

From The Associated Press

Wizards 107. Pacers 104 (20T)

WASHINGTON — Michael Jordan scored a season-high 41 points, includ-ing 20 in the fourth quarter and two overtimes as Washington beat Indiana 107-104 Saturday night.

Jordan, with Charles Oakley in a major supporting role, battled wills and wits with Al Harrington and Jermaine O'Neal in a tense thriller. Harrington finished with 33 points, and O'Neal had 26 points and 13 rebounds.

Jordan played a season-high 53 min-utes in his first 40-point game of the season, making 14 of 26 shots from the

NBA

field and 10 of 12 from the line, including a pair of free throws with 3:03 left that gave the Wizards the lead for

Nets 88, Magic 83

ORLANDO, Fla. — Kenyon Martin had 19 points and 12 rebounds as New Jer-sey extended the NBA's longest cur-rent winning streak to nine games. The Nets attempted 28 more free throws than the Magic, which helped lead to the ejection of Orlando coach

Doc Rivers in the third quarter. The Nets converted 24 of 36 attempts while the Magic were 6-for-8. Orlando was called for 27 fouls compared to 14 on New Jersey.

The Nets got 15 points and 12 assists from Jason Kidd, while Lucious Harris scored 14 and Richard Jefferson 13. They are two victories shy of the franchise record for consecutive victories (11) set during the 1982-83 season.

Tracy McGrady led Orlando with 30 points, 11 rebounds, seven assists and four steals.

Pistons 90, Hawks 86

ATLANTA — Chauncey Billups scored 23 points and Ben Wallace grabbed 20 rebounds to lead Detroit to its fourth straight victory.

Billups shot 5-for-5 from three-point range and Richard Hamilton added 18 points for the Pistons, one of only two teams in the Eastern Conference with winning road records.

Glenn Robinson scored 24 points, Sha-reef-Abdur-Rahim added 20 and Jason Terry had 12 assists for Atlanta, which lost its fourth straight.

Continued on Page 9

Miami RB McGahee tears knee ligaments

PHOENIX - Willis McGahee's professional career will have to wait.

will have to wait.

Miami's All-American running back tore three ligaments in his left knee against Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl and will have reconstructive surgery, assistant coach Don Soldinger said Saturday.

The injury means McGahee, a sophomore who was expected to turn pro and was widely projected to be the first running back taken in April's NFL draft, will return to Miami and try to recover in time for next season. It won't be easy

the first running back taken in April's NFL draft, will return to Miami and try to recover in time for next season. It won't be easy.

He tore the anterior cruciate, posterior cruciate and medial collateral ligaments in his knee early in the fourth quarter Friday night, Soldinger said. McGahee will have surgery Sunday, but rehabilitation could sideline him for all or part of next season.

Teammate Frank Gore tore two ligaments in his knee last March, began running five months later but still hasn't returned to full-contact practice. McGahee has nearly eight months before Miami's season opener at Louisiana Tech.

"He'll come back," Soldinger said. "He's that type of and over again. If he stays positive and works hard—he's down in the dumps right now—he'll come back. He has an unbelievable work ethic combined with tremendous talent. You can't go wrong that way."

McGahee, a 6-foot-1, 224-pound Miami native, ran for a school-record 1,686 yards and 27 touchdowns this season and was a finalist for the Heisman Trophy, the Doak Walker Award and the Walter Camp Player of the Year award.

Two Columbus fans injured in fall from stands

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Two men sustained minor inju ries and were taken to a hospital after falling about

ries and were taken to a hospital after falling about 15 feet from the stands onto a concrete walkway during an NHL game Saturday night, a Columbus Blue Jackets spokesman said.

In March 2002 at the same site — Nationwide Arena — 13-year-old Brittanie Cecil was struck in the head by a puck and died two days later. She was the first fan to die from an injury at an NHL game.

The two men were "behaving recklessly" when they fell onto a floor in front of the Zamboni storage area in the second period of Columbus' game against Phoenix, spokesman Todd Sharrock said.

Robin Bisesi, a fan seated in the section where the

Sports in brief

fall occurred, said she saw the two men exchange punches while standing near a railing. After they struggled for a few seconds, she said, they flipped over the railing headfirst.

Brother-sister duo sweeps ski races

KRANJSKA GORA, Slovenia — Ivica Kostelic won a slalom less than an hour after his sister did the same in Italy. It was the first time siblings won World Cup Alpine races on the same day. Janica Kostelic's victory in Bormio on Sunday came on her 21st birthday and was her fifth victory of the

season.

season.
"It was a very special race and victory for me today, we got two victories for our family," Ivica said. "There are a lot of things for us to celebrate today." Ivica recorded his second straight victory, having won the special elimination in Sestrieres, Italy, three weeks ago. He led after the opening leg and had a total time of 1 minute, 44.71 seconds on the badly rutted course.

ted course.

Austria's Rainer Schoenfelder was runner-up in 1:44.98 and Olympic slalom champion Jean-Pierre Vidal of France was third in 1:45.03.

Tom Rothrock was the fastest U.S. skier, placing 12th in 1:46.81. Americans Bode Miller and Erik Schlopy went out in the opening leg.

Bengals interview Mularkey

CINCINNATI - The Cincinnati Bengals met with CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Bengals met with Steelers offensive coordinator Mike Mularkey on Saturday in Pittsburgh, apparently completing their first round of interviews for their head coaching job. The Bengals fired Dick LeBeau on Monday after a 2-14 season, worst in franchise history. Washington defensive coordinator Marvin Lewis flew to Cincinnati for an interview Tuesday, and former Jacksonville Jaguars coach Tom Coughlin visited on Friday.

The Bengals also are considering two of LeBeau's assistants for the job: defensive coordinator Mark Duffner and running backs coach Jim Anderson.

Rams fire defensive coaches

ST. LOUIS - The St. Louis Rams have dismissed linebackers coach Mike Haluchak and secondary coach Carlos Mainord.

The defending NFC champions failed to make the playoffs after a 7-9 season.

Rams coach Mike Martz was traveling to the San Francisco area for the East-West Shrine college allstar game next Saturday. It was not immediately clear who would replace Haluchak and Mainord.

Perez wins IBF 115-pound title

WASHINGTON — Luis Alberto Perez won the IBF junior bantamweight championship Saturday night, battering champion Felix "Macho" Machado's right eye in a 12-round decision.

Perez (21-1) received winning scores of 115-112 and 114-113 from two of the judges, while the third judge had it 115-112 for Machado (22-4-1).

Nicknamed "El Demoledor," which means "Demolior Machado (21-4-1).

tion Man," Perez was the aggressor throughout the fight.

Former catcher Daulton arrested on DUI charges

TAMPA, Fla. — Former major league catcher Darren Daulton was arrested on charges of driving under the influence when he refused a breath alcohol test, po-

influence when he refused a breath alcohol test, police said Saturday.
Daulton was arrested Friday night when he was stopped by officers in his 2003 Mercedes Benz, said Tampa police spokeswoman Katie Hughes. He was arrested with a female passenger but she was not charged, Hughes said.
He was charged with DUI, refusing the breath alcohol test and driving with a suspended license.

hol test and driving with a suspended license. A three-time All-Star, Daulton spent 14 years in the majors, 13½ with the Philadelphia Phillies.

Rally driver killed in Sweden

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — One driver was killed and another injured when their rally car veered off a road and landed on its roof during a race Sunday.

The accident happened in Haellefors, nearly 100 miles from Stockholm, during the one of the race's first sections.

first sections.

The two men were co-drivers, police said. Their identities were not released.

A videotape made during the race showed the car hitting a tree, police spokesman Goeran Gunnarsson said. He told the Swedish news agency TT there would be an investigation. None of the other cars in the race was affected. The

race was canceled.

No. 1 Alabama 65, No. 19 Xavier 58

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Erwin Dudley had 18 points and 10 rebounds and he and Antoine Pettway each made two free throws in the final 22 seconds as No. 1 Alabama beat No. 19 Xavier 65-58 Saturday.

The game was the first for the Crimson Tide (10-1) since Monday's loss at Utah. The victory extended the school-record home winning streak to 26 games. Mo Williams had 17 points for Alabama. Romain Sato had 17 of his 20 points in the second half for Xavier (9-3), despite picking up his fourth foul with 9:31 left.

David West, who played 40 minutes. had all of his 16

David West, who played 40 minutes, had all of his 16

points and eight rebounds in the first half.
Williams sliced into the lane to give Alabama a
60-47 lead with seven minutes to play. Sato answered with a layup to spark a 10-0 run.

No. 2 Pittsburgh 85, **Robert Morris 49**

PITTSBURGH - Chevy Troutman had 19 of his 24 points in the first half as the Panthers (10-1) rebounded from their first loss of the season.

DaMarcus Ellis had 11 points for the Colonials (3-6), who are 0-22 against Pittsburgh.

Ontario Lett added 18 points and seven rebounds and Jaron Brown had 10 points and 11 rebounds for the Panthers, whose frontcourt outscored Robert

No. 4 Arizona 80, Oregon St. 65

CORVALLIS, Ore. — Freshman guard Hassan Adams scored 14 points to lead Arizona.

Rick Anderson, called upon to replace injured forward Luke Walton, had 13 points for the Wildcats, who opened their Pacific-10 season with a sweep of the Oregon schools for the first time since 1997-98. Jason Gardner added 12 points.

Arizona (9-1, 2-0) was coming off a dramatic comefrom-behind 81-72 victory Thursday night over No. 9 Oregon. The Beavers (7-4, 0-2), coming off a 67-47 loss at home to Arizona State in their Pac-10 opener, gave the Wildcats little trouble.

the Wildcats little trouble.

Philip Ricci led the Beavers with 24 points as Ore

gon State extended its losing streak against Top 25 teams to 17 games.

No. 6 Notre Dame 55, Valparaiso 53

CHICAGO — Matt Carroll had 14 points, and Dan Miller and Torin Francis each added 12 as the Fighting Irish (12-1) won their eighth straight.

The Crusaders, who trailed by as many as 14 points in the second half, missed two three-point attempts in the last two minutes — including a long one by Greg Tonagel with 2.4 seconds left.

Joaquim Gomes led Valparaiso (5-7) with a career-pick 17 points in the game played at the United Control of the care played at the United Control of the care of the care played at the United Control of the care of

high 17 points in the game played at the United Cen-

No. 9 Oregon 94, Arizona State 73

EUGENE, Ore. — Luke Ridnour scored 24 points, including 21 in the second half, as Oregon rallied to

win. The Ducks (10-2, 1-1 Pac-10) went on a 25-2 run mid-

College basketball

way through the second half, turning a five-point defi-cit into a 69-51 advantage with 8:46 left to play. Ore-gon trailed 39-33 at halftime but shot 81 percent (21-for-28) in the second half. Arizona State freshman center Ike Diogu led the Sun Devils (9-4, 1-1) with 27 points and eight re-bounds. The Sun Devils had won five straight, but were overwhelmed by Oregon's sensational shooting performance in the second half.

No. 10 Oklahoma 60, No. 14 Michigan State 58

OKLAHOMA CITY — Ebi Ere scored 21 points and Oklahoma came up with big defensive plays in the closing minutes to hold off Michigan State in the All-College Classic.

Quannas White made one of two free throws with

Justines with Hade one of two free throws with 14.1 seconds left to give the Sooners (8-2) the two-point lead. Michigan State (8-4) eventually got the ball to leading scorer Chris Hill, but White knocked it away as the final seconds ran off the clock. Hollis Price scored 19 for Oklahoma, which built a 58-50 lead with 4:24 left and then hung on. Hill and

Maurice Ager scored 12 each for Michigan State.

No. 11 Illinois 88. Oakland, Mich. 53

CHAMPAIGN, III. — Brian Cook had 22 points and 11 rebounds and Sean Harrington added 20 points to lead Illinois.

Cook, the Big Ten's leading scorer, had eight of the Illini's final 14 points but had his consecutive free-throw streak stopped at 32 when he missed with five

throw streak stopped at 32 when he missed with five minutes remaining. It's the second-longest streak in Illinois history. Illinois (10-1) shot 60 percent for the game despite going 8-for-25 from beyond the arc. The Illini also had 25 assists. Rawle Marshall scored 22 to lead the Griz-23 assists. Rawie Marshall Scored 22 to lead the Grizzlies (5-6), who were just 6-for-19 from the free-throw line.

Dayton 92, No. 13 Marquette 85 (OT)

DAYTON, Ohio - Ramod Marshall scored 23 points

and Keith Waleskowski hit a clutch three-pointer in overtime to lead the Flyers (8-3).

Robert Jackson was 8-for-9 from the field and had 19 points for the Golden Eagles (8-3), who lost their second straight and dropped to 0-4 on the road this

No. 16 Missouri 88, Iowa 82

IOWA CITY, Iowa - Ricky Clemons banked in a rally-

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Ricky Clemons banked in a rally-stopping three-pointer with 1:18 left and finished with a season-high 27 points for the Tigers (8-1). Missouri was clinging to an 80-78 lead and only four seconds remained on the shot clock when Clemons fired from the left wing, two steps behind the three-point arc. The ball banked in, drawing an exasperat-ed sigh from the crowd of 14,582 and giving the Tigers an 83-78 lead.

Chauncey Leslie had 19 points for the Hawkeyes

No. 17 Indiana 70, Charlotte 60

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Bracey Wright scored 17 points and Tom Coverdale added 13 as the Hoosiers (10-2) won in coach Mike Davis' first game since serving a one-game suspension.

Davis missed this week's victory over Ball State for his on-court outburst at a referee during a loss to Kentucky.

Demon Brown led the 49ers (5-6) with 16 points.

No. 18 Kansas 100. Missouri-Kansas City 46

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Kirk Hinrich scored a career-high 29 points for the Jayhawks (9-3), who may have lost second-leading scorer and leading rebounder Wayne Simien for at least two games with a separat-

wdyne shinor at least two games with a separate ed right shoulder. Michael Watson, who entered the game as the na-tion's third-leading scorer at 25.6 points per game, had 20 of his 27 in the second half for the Kangaroos

No. 20 Kentucky 83, Ohio 75

CINCINNATI - Keith Bogans scored 21 points and Erik Daniels made clutch baskets down the stretch to

lead the Wildcats (9-3).

Daniels, who grew up in Cincinnati and had about 60 relatives and friends in the stands, had two dunks, a layup and a putback that helped Kentucky hold off

Sonny Johnson had 24 points for the Bobcats (3-6).

No. 22 Maryland 79, Wagner 57

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Ryan Randle had 21 points and tied a school record by making all 10 of his field goal attempts, and Steve Blake had 12 assists to move into 20th place on the NCAA career list for the

Jermaine Hall scored 26 points for the Seahawks

No. 23 Wake Forest 68, Richmond 62

RICHMOND, Va. - Josh Howard scored 21 points to lead the Demon Deacons (9-0), who opened the second half with a 20-5 run.

Tony Dobbins had 18 points for the Spiders (6-5), who lost their 11th straight to Wake Forest.

No. 24 Louisville 72. Ohio St. 64 (OT)

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Bryant Northern and Reece Gaines scored all 32 of their points in the second half and overtime to lead the Cardinals (8-1).

Brent Darby, whose two free throws with 6.5 seconds left in regulation tied the game at 57, had 24 points for the Buckeyes (7-4).

From The Associated Press

Continued from Page 8

Jazz 105, Timberwolves 97

MINNEAPOLIS - Karl Malone had 19 of his 33 points in the third quarter Sat-

of his 33 points in the third quarter Sat-urday night, propelling Utah to its fourth straight victory. Matt Harpring had 17 points and eight rebounds, John Stockton had 13 assists and reserves Andrei Kirilenko (15 points) and Tony Massenburg (12 points) also made big contributions for Utah, which made 31 of its 32 foul shots shots.

Kevin Garnett, as usual, led the Wolves with 26 points and 14 rebounds, but he highlighted Minneso-Kevin Garnett, as usual, ta's woes at the free-throw line with a 2-for-9 effort. The Wolves went 9-for-18.

Warriors 86, Rockets 84

HOUSTON — Troy Murphy had 23 points and Earl Boykins added 12, including seven in the fourth quarter, as Golden State held off Houston.

Cuttino Mobley had 27 points and Steve Francis 15 for Houston. Yao Ming had six points and a career-high 17 rebounds but missed a long three-point attempt at the final buzzer.

NBA continued

Boykins made an 18-footer with 53 seconds left to give Golden State an 86-84 lead. On Houston's next two pos-sessions, Mobley had his shot blocked by Erick Dampier and Francis missed a

Kings 87, Nuggets 76

DENVER — Mike Bibby scored 24 points and Doug Christie had 12 points, seven assists and seven steals.

The Kings had not played in a week and were without Chris Webber (sore knee), but it didn't matter against the lowly Nuggets.

Sacramento forced 21 turnovers and held Denver to 36 percent shooting to win its seventh straight over the Nug-

Juwan Howard had 20 points and 15 rebounds for Denver, which has lost six straight at home and 18 of 20 overall.

Bulls 85, Cavaliers 79

CHICAGO - Jalen Rose scored 19 points and Tyson Chandler hit two go-ahead baskets in the fourth quarter as Chicago blew a 20-point lead before

beating Cleveland.
Rose, playing despite a stomach flu, had four free throws in the final period and a jumper with 42 seconds left to hold off the Cavaliers.

After Cleveland rallied with a 23-6 run to take the lead, Chandler twice hit baskets to give the Bulls the lead back.

Chandler finished with 16 points. Zydrunas Ilgauskas scored 27 points and Ricky Davis had 17 — shooting just 4-for-18 — to lead the Cavaliers.

Suns 107, Lakers 93

PHOENIX — Shawn Marion scored 23 points and Phoenix stretched its home winning streak to eight in the first meeting of the season between the

Kobe Bryant had 37 points, seven assists and seven rebounds and Shaqui-lle O'Neal added 25 points and nine rebounds, but the rest of the Lakers shot just 11-for-41.

Rookie Amare Stoudemire, in his first game against his idol O'Neal, had 17 points and eight rebounds, including a thunderous dunk that put Phoenix up 90-75 with 2:46 remaining.

Bo Outlaw, the Suns' energizer off the bench, added 12 points. Stephon Marbury had 17 points and 10 assists but made just 4-for-17 shots. Penny, Hardaway scored 11 for Phoenix, which has won 11 of its past 13.

Mavericks 102, 76ers 83

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki scored 29 points and Dallas beat road-weary Philadelphia 102-83 Saturday, the Mavericks' biggest winning margin ever against the 76ers.

Nowitzki hit a three-pointer at the end of the first quarter to make it 34-24, and the Mavericks maintained a double-digit lead the rest of the game. They led by as many as 25 points in the fourth quarter.

They led by as many as 25 points in the fourth quarter.

Michael Finley had 18 points for the Mavericks, while Steve Nash had 16 points and eight assists. Shawn Bradley, a late addition to the starting lineup, had 10 points, 11 rebounds and seven blocks in just 21 minutes against his former team.

his former team.
Allen Iverson led Philadelphia with 25 points and his best shooting game on the trip. After shooting just 31 percent (32-for-102) the previous five games, Iverson made 11 of 19. Former Maver-ick Greg Buckner added 14 points on 7-for-11 shooting in a reserve role.

NHL

Blue Jackets 2, Coyotes 0

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Marc Denis made 23 saves for his second shutout of the season and Mike Sillinger and Sean Pronger scored first-period goals as Columbus beat Phoenix 2-0 on Saturday night to end the Coyotes' four-game

winning streak.

Denis had his sixth career shutout as
Columbus improved to 2-0-1-0 in its three games after losing five

Maple Leafs 2, Devils 1

TORONTO — Ed Belfour made a sea-son-high 50 saves for Toronto in the second game of a home-and-home se-

Travis Green scored the go-ahead goal in the third period for the Maple Leafs, who had only 19 shots and were coming off a 2-0 loss in New Jersey on

Friday night.
Tom Fitzgerald also scored for the Maple Leafs, missing Mats Sundin, Misael Renberg, Nik Antropov, Shayne Corson and Karel Pilar because of injuries Jamie Langanhrunger Sorred for ries. Jamie Langenbrunner scored for

Sabres 2, Senators 1 (OT)

OTTAWA — Ales Kotalik scored his second goal of the game with 40.9 seconds left in overtime to lift Buffalo over Ottawa in a matchup of the NHL's two most financially troubled franchises. Kotalik, who opened the scoring 48 seconds into the game, took Stu Barnes' two-on-one pass and scored his eighth goal of the season into an open left side.

left side.

Shaun Van Allen scored midway through the second period for Ottawa, which lost for the first time in four games against the woeful Sabres this

Capitals 2, Rangers 2

NEW YORK - Matthew Barnaby's power-play goal with 3:37 left in regula-tion lifted New York into a tie with Washington.

Barnaby fired in a rebound of Tom

Barnaby fired in a rebound of Tom Poti's point shot to give the last-place Rangers points in the standings for the third time in four games (2-1-1). Eric Lindros also scored for New York.

Mike Grier and Robert Lang scored second-period goals to give Washington a 2-1 lead. The Capitals have played overtime in three straight games, tying twice and losing once. The Capitals have earned points in 10 straight games, going 5-0-3-2.

Stars 3, Kings 2

LOS ANGELES - Derian Hatcher and Jere Lehtinen scored the tying and go-ahead goals less than six minutes apart in the third period as Dallas ex-tended its unbeaten streak to five

Bill Guerin had a power-play goal and an assist. Ron Tugnutt made 17 saves. and Mike Modano added assists for the Stars, who have won three straight to increase their lead in the Pacific Division to 15 points over Los Angeles and Anaheim.

Mathieu Schneider had a power-play goal, and Lubomir Visnovsky also scored for the Kings, who have lost

Penguins 3, **Islanders 2 (OT)**

PITTSBURGH — Martin Straka scored 42 seconds into overtime as Pittsburgh snapped New York's five-game winning streak.

It was Straka's first overtime goal in It was Straka's first overtime goal in 501 regular-season games with the Penguins, who won in overtime for the first time this season (1-5-3) and snapped a five-game home winless streak against New York.

Mario Lemieux added his 19th goal, and Michal Sivek also had a first-peri-

od goal for Pittsburgh. New York's Mark Parrish and Arron Asham scored 3½ minutes apart in the second period

Blues 5, Lightning 1

ST. LOUIS — Petr Cajanek and Martin Rucinsky scored short-handed goals on consecutive shots to start the sec-ond period in St. Louis' victory over

Tampa Bay.
Cajanek added an even-strength
goal, and Alexander Khavanov and Dallas Drake also scored for St. Louis.
Andre Roy scored for Tampa Bay.

Blackhawks 3, **Predators 3**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Jason York scored with 3:38 left in the third period to give Nashville a tie with Chicago. Scott Hartnell and Andreas Johansson also scored for the Predators. Andrei Nikolishin, Kyle Calder and Sergei Berezin scored for Chicago.

Flames 3, Wild 2

CALGARY, Alberta - Martin Gelinas scored two goals as Calgary remained undefeated under new coach Darryl

Sutter has led the Flames to three victories and a tie since taking over the team a week ago. Roman Turek made 22 saves for Cal-

gary, and Toni Lydman added a goal. Andrew Brunette and Andrei Zyuzin scored for Minnesota, which entered the game with a four-game unbeaten

Canucks 3, Panthers 2

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Todd Bertuzzi scored twice and set up Markus Naslund's winner with 9:09 left

Markus Nashind's Willies Will 9.09 left for Vancouver. Bertuzzi has six goals and three as-sists in the past five games, and Naslund, the NHL leader with 28 goals, has seven goals and seven assists in

his past seven games.

Brad Ference had a goal and an assist, and Marcus Nilson also scored for the Panthers, who failed to pick up a point for the first time in 15 road

Oilers 5, Canadiens 4 (OT)

EDMONTON, Alberta — Ryan Smyth scored his second goal of the game with a minute left in overtime for Edm-

onton. Montreal's Richard Zednik tied with 33 seconds remaining in the third period. With the Montreal net empty, Zednik put the puck behind Tommy Salo from close range for his 19th goal of the season.

Mike Comrie, Ales Hemsky and Jason Chimera added goals for Edmonton. Saku Koivu, Craig Rivet and Stephane Quintal also scored for Montreal.

Hurricanes 4, Bruins 2

BOSTON - Jeff O'Neill scored two

BOSTON — Jeff O'Neill scored two power-play goals to help Carolina snap a four-game losing streak. Craig Adams and Erik Cole also scored goals for Carolina, shutout twice and outscored 18-6 during the losing streak. Joe Thornton and Glen Murray scored for Boston, 2-9-1 in its past 12.

Avalanche 6, Sharks 1

SAN JOSE, Calif. - Steven Reinprecht

SAN JOSE, Callf. — Steven Reinprecht scored three goals and Patrick Roy made 40 saves for Colorado. Jeff Shantz, Dan Hinote and Rob Blake added goals to help the Ava-lanche beat the Sharks for the fourth consecutive time and seventh straight

game in San Jose.

Marco Sturm scored his 14th goal of the season for San Jose.

From The Associated Press

Scores/standings

NFL Playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs Saturday, Jan. 4 AFC N.Y. Jets 41, Indianapolis 0

Atlanta 27, Green Bay 7
Sunday, Jan. 5
AFC
Cleveland at Pittsburgh
NFC

N.Y. Giants at San Francisco Divisional Playoffs Saturday, Jan. 11 and Sunday, Jan. 12

AFC
Cleveland or N.Y. Jets at Oakland
N.Y. Jets or Pittsburgh at Tennessee
NFC
San Francisco or N.Y. Giants at

San Francisco or N.Y. Giants at Tampa Bay Atlanta at Philadelphia Conference Championships Sunday, Jan. 19

AFC Championship and NFC Championship Super Bowl Sunday, Jan. 26

At San Diego

AFC champion vs. NFC champion

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division W L Pct GB

New Jersey Boston Philadelphia Orlando Washington New York Miami	25 19 19 18 16 12 12	17 17 20	.485 .414 .375	5 5½ 7½ 8½ 10½ 12									
Central Division W L Pct GB													
Indiaṇa	23	10	.697	-									
Detroit New Orleans	21 19	10 15	.677 .559	1 4½									
Milwaukee	13		.406	91/2									
Atlanta	12	20	.375	101/2									
Chicago	12	21	.364	11									
Toronto Cleveland	8 7	25 28	.242	15 17									
WESTERN CONFERENCE													
Midwest Division													
Delles	W	Ļ	Pct	GB									
Dallas San Antonio	27 20	5 13	.844 .606	71/2									
Utah	19	13	.594	8									
Houston	17	14		91/2									
Minnesota	17	15 22	.531 .313	10 17									
Memphis Denver	10 7	25	.219	20									
Pacific Division													

GB **L** 9 24 21 19 Sacramento 12 12 Phoenix Portland 16 13 13 16 19 20 21 .500 .406 .394 Seattle Golden State 7½ 10½ L.A. Lakers 11 .364

L.A. Clippers 12 21 ...
Saturday's games
Dallas 102, Philadelphia 83
New Jersey 88, Orlando 83
Detroit 90, Atlanta 86 Washington 107, Indiana 104, 20T Washington 107, Indiana 104, 20T Utah 105, Minnesota 97 Golden State 86, Houston 84 Chicago 85, Cleveland 79 Sacramento 87, Denver 76 Phoenix 107, L.A. Lakers 93

Men's basketball AP Top 25 Fared

Saturday 1. Alabama (10-1) beat No. 19 Xavier 65-58. Next: vs. Arkansas, Wednesday. 2. Pittsburgh (10-1) beat Robert Mor-

2. Pittsburgh (10-1) beat Robert Morris 85-49. Next: vs. No. 6 Notre Dame, Monday.
3. Duke (8-0) did not play. Next: at Clemson, Sunday.
4. Arizona (9-1) beat Oregon State 80-65. Next: vs. Washington State, Thursday. 80-65. Next: vs. Washington State, Thursday. 5. Connecticut (9-0) did not play.

Next: at No. 10 Oklahoma, Tuesday. 6. Notre Dame (12-1) beat Valparaiso 55-53. Next: at No. 2 Pittsburgh, Mon-

day.
7. Texas (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. Mount St. Mary's, Md., Sunday. 8. Mississippi State (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 12 Florida, Tuesday. 9. Oregon (10-2) beat Arizona State 94-73. Next: at California, Thursday. 10. Oklahoma (8-2) beat No. 14 Michi-gan State 60-58. Next: vs. No. 5 Connect-

gan state 60-26. Next. vs. No. 3 connecticut, Tuesday.

11. Illinois (10-1) beat Oakland, Mich.
88-53. Next: at Minnesota, Tuesday.
12. Florida (11-2) did not play. Next:
at No. 8 Mississippi State, Tuesday. 13. Marquette (8-3) lost to Dayton 92-85, OT. Next: at Saint Louis, Tues-

day. 14. Michigan State (8-4) lost to No. 10 Oklahoma 60-58. Next: vs. Ohio State,

Oklahoma 60-58. Next: vs. Ohio State, Thursday. 15. Creighton (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Drake, Sunday. 16. Missouri (8-1) beat lowa 88-82. Next: vs. Centenary, Tuesday. 17. Indiana (10-2) beat Charlotte 70-60. Next: vs. Penn State, Wednes-

day. 18. Kansas (9-3) beat Missouri-Kansas City 100-46. Next: at Iowa State,

Monday.

19. Xavier (9-3) lost to No. 1 Alabama

19. Xavier (9-3) lost to No. 1 Alabama 65-58. Next: vs. Richmond, Tuesday. 20. Kentucky (9-3) beat Ohio 83-75. Next: at Tennessee, Wednesday. 21. LSU (9-1) did not play. Next: at Georgia, Sunday. 22. Maryland (7-3) beat Wagner 79-57. Next: vs. Hampton, Wednesday. 23. Wake Forest (9-0) beat Richmond 24.

23. Wake Forest (9-0) beat Richmond 68-62. Next: vs. Elon, Tuesday. 24. Louisville (8-1) beat Ohio State

72-64, OT. Next: at Charlotte, Wednes

day. 25. Texas Tech (9-1) did not play. Next: at San Diego State, Monday.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	Atlantic Division											
		W	L	Т	OL	Pts	GF	GA				
	New Jersey	21	12	2	3	47	89	77				
	Philadelphia	19				47	87	78				
	Pittsburgh	17	15	3	5	42	116	118				
	N.Y. Islanders	17	16	5	1	40	108	113				
	N.Y. Rangers	15	20	6	1	37	101	131				
Northeast Division												

Northeast Division

W L T OL Pts GF GA
24 9 5 1 54 129 86
21 13 4 1 47 121 104
20 15 4 1 45 113 96
16 15 5 4 41 110 122
10 22 5 2 27 87 110

Southeast Division

W L T OL Pts GF GA Ottawa **Boston** Toronto Montreal Buffalo

W L T OL Pts GF GA 18 16 5 2 43 107 113 17 15 5 3 42 115 116 16 16 5 3 40 91 103 12 12 9 7 40 94 114 10 23 1 4 25 92 142 Washington Tampa Bay Carolina Florida Atlanta

10 23 1 4 25 92 142
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division
W L T OL Pts GF GA
22 9 7 1 52 119 92
S 21 12 5 2 49 131 102
O 19 13 7 0 45 93 86
OUS 14 19 4 2 34 108 117
le 10 18 7 4 31 82 109
Northwest Division Detroit St. Louis Chicago Columbus Nashville **Northwest Division**

| Orthwest Division | W L T OL Pts GF GA | 24 11 5 0 53 127 101 | 21 12 7 1 50 108 93 | 16 10 9 5 46 116 100 | 18 13 4 5 45 107 105 | 13 18 6 3 35 85 108 | Pacific Division | Pte GF CA Vancouver Minnesota Colorado **Edmonton** Calgary

W L T OL Pts GF GA 22 10 9 1 54 125 82 16 16 4 3 39 100 107 15 15 6 3 39 97 101 15 17 6 3 39 104 120 15 17 4 3 37 105 121 Dallas Los Angeles Anaheim Phoenix Two points for a win, one point for a tie

Two points for a win, one point for and overtime loss.

Saturday's games

Buffalo 2, Ottawa 1, OT

Carolina 4, Boston 2

Columbus 2, Phoenix 0

Toronto 2, New Jersey 1

Washington 2, N.Y. Rangers 2, tie

Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Islanders 2, OT

St. Louis 5, Tampa Bay 1

Chicago 3, Nashville 3, tie

Calgary 3, Minnesota 2

Edmonton 5, Montreal 4, OT

Vancouver 3, Florida 2

Dallas 3, Los Angeles 2

Colorado 6, San Jose 1